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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                                    |   |                                  |
|------------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| In re application of: Ales, et al. | ) | Examiner: not yet assigned       |
|                                    | ) |                                  |
| Serial No.: 10/518,337             | ) | Art Unit: not yet assigned       |
|                                    | ) |                                  |
| Filed: December 15, 2004           | ) | Attorney Docket No.: 22188/06938 |
|                                    | ) |                                  |
| For: <b>ULTRASONIC TESTING OF</b>  | ) |                                  |
| <b>FITTING ASSEMBLY</b>            | ) |                                  |

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A&B forms and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE DOCUMENTS**

- ☒ In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version of that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

- ☐ In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:
- 
- ☐ Complete English translations of foreign language documents are being submitted herewith, and therefore no concise explanation for such documents is required.

**CERTIFICATION AND FEE PAYMENT INFORMATION**

- ☒ The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. If this is not the case, the patent office is hereby authorized to charge any related fee to **Deposit Account No. 030172**.
- ☐ The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed thirty days or fewer from a Communication from a foreign patent office and Applicant submits the following Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this Communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☐ The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant submits the following Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. If this is not the case, the patent office is hereby authorized to charge any related fee to **Deposit Account No. 030172**.
- ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- ☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
Appln. No. 10/518,337

Attorney Docket No. 22188/06938

☐ The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier). Accordingly, Applicant submits the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). The fee is being paid in the following manner:

☐ A check is attached in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ as required under 37 § 1.17(p).

☐ The patent office is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ and any related fee to **Deposit Account No. 030172**.

☐ The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing of a final Office Action, Notice of Allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but on or before the payment of the issue fee. Accordingly, Applicant submits the following Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) along with the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

AND, the fee is being paid in the following manner:

☐ A check is attached in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ as required under 37 § 1.17(p).

☐ The patent office is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ and any related fee to **Deposit Account No. 030172**.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Mar 16, 2005

By: \_\_\_\_\_



Mark R. Hull, Reg. No. 54,753

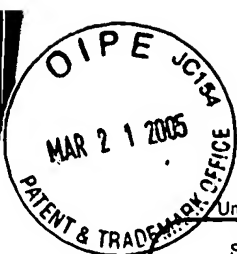
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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031  
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet 1

of 3

**Complete if Known**

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number     | 10/518,337        |
| Filing Date            | December 15, 2004 |
| First Named Inventor   | Richard A. Ales   |
| Art Unit               | not yet assigned  |
| Examiner Name          | not yet assigned  |
| Attorney Docket Number | 22188/06938       |

| U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |  |                                |  |   |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials*     | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                        |                       | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
|                        |                       | US- 6,327,912                            | 12/11/01                       | Basile et al.                                      |   |
|                        |                       | US- 6,301,512                            | 10/09/01                       | Motzer   |   |
|                        |                       | US- 5,884,232                            | 03/16/99                       | Buder  |   |
|                        |                       | US- 5,719,785                            | 02/17/98                       | Standifer  |   |
|                        |                       | US- 5,535,136                            | 07/09/96                       | Standifer  |   |
|                        |                       | US- 5,499,540                            | 03/19/96                       | Whaley et al.                                      |   |
|                        |                       | US- 5,321,506                            | 06/14/94                       | Sargent  |   |
|                        |                       | US- Re. 34,063                           | 09/15/92                       | Vincent et al.                                     |   |
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|                        |                       | US- 4,573,359                            | 03/04/86                       | Carstensen   |   |
|                        |                       | US- 4,233,723                            | 11/18/80                       | Eshghy   |   |
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|                        |                       | US- 4,592,125                            | 06/03/86                       | Skene  |   |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |   |                                |   |   |                |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|---|----------------|
| Examiner Initials*       | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> *Number <sup>4</sup> *Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |   |   |                |
|                          |                       | GB 264,762  | 01/27/27                       | Marcus Allen                                    |   |                |
|                          |                       | GB 1361372  | 07/24/74                       | The Weatherhead                                 |   |                |
|                          |                       | GB 2353342  | 02/21/01                       | Seymour et al.                                  |   |                |
|                          |                       | WO 99/31499   | 06/24/99                       | Mecon Ltd.                                      |   |                |
|                          |                       |   |                                |   |   |                |
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|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature |  | Date Considered |  |
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
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Sheet 2of 3**Complete if Known**

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number     | 10/518,337        |
| Filing Date            | December 15, 2004 |
| First Named Inventor   | Richard A. Ales   |
| Art Unit               | not yet assigned  |
| Examiner Name          | not yet assigned  |
| Attorney Docket Number | 22188/06938       |

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|                        |                       | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
|                        |                       | US- 4,614,120                            | 09/30/86                       | Fradin et al.                                      |   |
|                        |                       | US- 4,655,159                            | 04/07/87                       | McMills  |   |
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|                        |                       | US- 5,233,742                            | 08/10/93                       | Gray et al.  |   |
|                        |                       | US- 5,280,967                            | 01/25/94                       | Varrin, Jr.  |   |
|                        |                       | US- 6,279,242                            | 08/28/01                       | Williams et al.                                    |   |
|                        |                       | US- 6,345,845                            | 02/12/02                       | Johnston   |   |
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|                        |                       | US- 5,807,048                            | 09/15/98                       | d'Agraives et al.                                  |   |
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|                        |                       | US- 3,218,845                            | 11/23/65                       | Joy  |   |
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|                        |                       | US-                                      |                                |  |   |
|                        |                       | US-                                      |                                |  |   |
|                        |                       | US-                                      |                                |  |   |
|                        |                       | US-                                      |                                |  |   |
|                        |                       | US-                                      |                                |  |   |

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| <b>Sheet</b> 3 <b>of</b> 3    | <b>Application Number</b>   | 10/518,337        |
|                               | <b>Filing Date</b>          | December 15, 2004 |
|                               | <b>First Named Inventor</b> | Ales et al.       |
|                               | <b>Art Unit</b>             | not yet assigned  |
|                               | <b>Examiner Name</b>        | not yet assigned  |
| <b>Attorney Docket Number</b> |                             | 22188/06938       |

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|----------------|
|                    |                       | Article "Development of the Intelligent System for Monitoring the Fitting Condition of Inserted Tubes", Wenxian Yang, May 21, 2003.   |                |
|                    |                       | Article "Correlation Analysis of Spatial Time Series Datasets: A Filter-and-Refine Approach", Pusheng Zhang et al.,   |                |
|                    |                       | Article "Complex Wavelet Analysis of Ultrasonic Signals", Wen-xian Yang et al.  |                |
|                    |                       | International Search Report of PCT/US03/18812.  |                |
|                    |                       | International Search Report of PCT/US03/19133.  |                |
|                    |                       | Article "Investigation of Signal Characteristics Using the Continuous Wavelet Transform", John Sadowsky, pgs. 258-269, Johns Hopkins APL Technical Digest, Vol. 17, No. 3, 1996   |                |
|                    |                       | Article "Ultraschallprüfung Grundlagen und industrielle Anwendungen", Deutsch V. et al. pgs 55-73, 1997, XP002279058 Berlin Heidelberg New York.  |                |
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|                           |  |                        |  |
|---------------------------|--|------------------------|--|
| <b>Examiner Signature</b> |  | <b>Date Considered</b> |  |
|---------------------------|--|------------------------|--|

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<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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